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The *Biochemical Journal* places emphasis on the prompt publication of both **full-length papers** (on average about 6 months after receipt) and **rapid papers** (on average within 12 weeks after receipt) on all aspects of Biochemistry. Papers are accepted from non-members and members of the Biochemical Society. The *Biochemical Journal* makes no manuscript handling charges, no page charges and no charges for plates. Fifty reprints are provided free of charge; further copies are available at modest cost.

The present division of the Journal into **Molecular and Cellular Aspects** will cease at the beginning of 1984. In the interim, however, authors should continue to indicate whether their paper is appropriate for **Molecular or Cellular Aspects** and in any case should state under which section in the Contents List their paper should appear:

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Papers submitted for publication should be addressed to the Editorial Secretary, Biochemical Journal, 7 Warwick Court, London WC1R 5DP, U.K.

The paragraphs below are a summarized version of information provided in the Biochemical Society's *Policy of the Journal and Instructions to Authors* [*Biochem. J.* (1983) **209**, 1-27].

### General Requirements

The following types of submission are considered by the Editorial Board.

**1. Full-length Papers** (normally eight printed pages maximum).

**2. Rapid Papers** (four printed pages maximum).

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**4. Reviews** (usually solicited).

Publication delays can be minimized if authors prepare their papers in the form described below and write in a concise style. In the Board's view, most **Full-length Papers** should not normally exceed eight printed pages, including figures and tables. Longer papers may be acceptable if their content justifies their length. Indeed, the Board's desire to restrict the length of papers should not lead authors to split their work into two or more shorter papers. For example, a single paper consisting justifiably of ten printed pages will normally be considered more favourably than two papers each of six pages dealing with the same material. Authors should remember that short papers are generally published with the least delay.

All papers that can be accommodated in four pages of the Journal will be treated as **Rapid Papers**. They receive priority reviewing and it is aimed for their publication to be within 12 weeks of receipt. In order to achieve this schedule, proofs of accepted Rapid Papers are not normally supplied to authors. However, authors are given details of any editing of Rapid Papers at the same time that the typescripts are sent to the printer, with a request that any essential amendments be sent to the Editorial Secretary as soon as possible. The scientific editorial staff in the Editorial Office check the proofs to ensure that they tally exactly with the edited typescripts and make any necessary alterations indicated by the authors.

### Full-length Papers and Rapid Papers

Three copies of the typescript should be submitted. The typescript should bear the name and address of the person to whom correspondence (including proofs) should be sent. An additional copy of the synopsis should be enclosed to facilitate selection of reviewers by the Chairman. The top copy should be accompanied by the original artwork (see the Appendix to *Policy of the Journal and Instructions to Authors* for advice on the preparation of figures). Photocopies of line drawings are acceptable for the other two copies but glossy prints (not photocopies) of all the halftone figures must be provided. Two copies will be sent simultaneously to two reviewers. The third copy will be held in the Editorial Office to be used in case of

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It is helpful if the author encloses copies of relevant preceding papers, especially if these were not published in the *Biochemical Journal*. If the paper submitted refers to a paper 'in the press' in another journal the reviewers will not have access to this material and it is important that the author should include photocopies of the relevant typescript together with documentary evidence that it has been accepted for publication. Any reference to a 'personal communication' must be supported by documentary evidence from the individual quoted showing that agreement with the quotation is given.

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Letters should be addressed to the Editorial Secretary. Typescripts should be submitted in triplicate, written in English using the spellings and abbreviations that are approved by the Journal. No synopsis is required. B.J. Letters must not exceed 1200 words in length, which is approximately the equivalent of two printed pages. One Scheme, Table or Figure may be included if this is essential, but the preparation of these is likely to increase publication time. To minimize delay in publication, accepted Letters are treated in the same way as Rapid Papers. Contributions that are not being published will be returned to the authors with minimal delay.

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